

Regular Session, 2011

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 44

BY SENATOR MARIONNEAUX

CONDOLENCES. Extends condolences to the family of U.S. Marine Corps Sergeant Joseph Bovia upon his death in Afghanistan.

A RESOLUTION

To express the sincere and heartfelt condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana to the family of United States Marine Corps Sergeant Joseph Bovia upon his death while conducting a ground combat mission in Operation Enduring Freedom.

WHEREAS, Joseph Bovia was a native of New Orleans, Louisiana, where he graduated from Bonnabel High School in 2004 and soon after enlisted, with his parents blessings, in the United States Marine Corps; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Bovia's service to his country was part of a family tradition, extending back generations to his grandfather, grand-uncle and uncle, all armed forces veterans; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Bovia loved being a part of the Marine Corps, welcoming the challenges, both physical and mental, as he successfully moved through the ranks and achieved leadership roles; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Bovia volunteered for combat duty and served two highly successful tours of duty in Iraq as part of a combat assault battalion where he distinguished himself in action; and

WHEREAS, he and his unit, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Combat Assault Battalion, 3<sup>rd</sup> Marine Division,

1 III Marine Expeditionary Force, were based out of Okinawa, Japan, when he turned down  
2 an offer to serve stateside as a demolitions instructor and volunteered for a third combat tour,  
3 this time to Afghanistan; and

4 WHEREAS, Sergeant Bovia, a highly trained combat engineer, was assigned the  
5 dangerous task of leading a leatherneck element that hunted for improvised explosive  
6 devices planted along roadsides heavily traveled by American forces; and

7 WHEREAS, twenty-four year old Sergeant Bovia was leading such a mission with  
8 Echo Company, August 31, 2010, in the Taliban stronghold of Helmand Province in  
9 southern Afghanistan when he and his men engaged enemy forces in a fierce firefight and  
10 the veteran of past combat patrols was mortally wounded by the intense ground fire that  
11 ensued; and

12 WHEREAS, while friends, family and loved ones will sorely miss Sergeant Bovia  
13 and the outstanding example of service and sacrifice for his country that he represented  
14 through his brave actions, they are also filled with pride to have known and loved such a  
15 truly patriotic American.

16 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana  
17 does hereby extend its deepest sympathy and condolences to the family of United States  
18 Marine Corps Sergeant Joseph Bovia for their immeasurable loss and his ultimate sacrifice  
19 in his country's war on terror.

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the  
21 family of Sergeant Joseph Bovia.

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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part  
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Heyward Jeffers.

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DIGEST

Marionneaux

SR No.

Expresses condolences upon the death of U.S.M.C. Sgt. Joseph Bovia.